

Talbot Primary School Newsletter



Thursday 19th October, 2017



Bumblebear Delight!

Reception classes were simply over run last week by a swarm of Bumblebears! Taking inspiration from Nadia Shireen's superb book, children in Reception enjoyed a very special day, in which they came dressed as half bumble bee and half anything else! I can reassure you that Reception (and no doubt parents) were very much inspired and did not disappoint in their choice of outfits. Not only did we have Queen Bees, Soldier Bees and Footballer Bees, but also Super Hero Bees too! Even Buzz Lightyear himself made an appearance. Thank you parents for helping your child with their outfit – it was a fabulous platform from which to base a whole week's worth of activities around the book, including a very energetic Bee dance.

Thank you also to the Reception team, who entered into the spirit of the day and launched forth in their own costumes – see above! Please do see the DB pages for more pictures from the day.

Look out for further dress up days in Reception in the coming months as we continue to find ways to inspire the children, share stories and develop their imaginations.



As the week comes to an end, so does what has been an extremely energetic and packed half-term. We hope that parent and carer consultations have been useful this week and provided not just an overview as to how your child(ren) have settled into their new year group, but also how they are progressing in terms of their learning. I have thoroughly enjoyed hearing how well the children have been able to talk about their learning with you before and after the consultation appointment – a testament to how Growth Mindsets and marking is making a difference on children's understanding of their learning journey.

You may have also received a questionnaire from the PTA this week inviting your views on how to support the school in spending some of the funds raised through the many PTA events held over the years. Your views are important to the PTA, and they would very much appreciate your responses in shaping current and future spending. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you on behalf of the staff and children for donations received – they have and will continue to make a lasting impact for our children.

We were also fortunate to welcome Hannah Langdana from Leeds Development Education Centre to meet with our Year Five children as part of our work to develop awareness of Global Issues and Black History Month. Hannah spent a day with Year Five and discussed how they could be '**Agents of Change**', challenging stereotypes and discussing the impact of gender and racial discrimination on lives today. A real thought provoking workshop. Hannah left by thanking the school and praising Year Five for being 'engaged and simply delightful.'

As part of our weekly assembly theme of '**Unity and Togetherness**' we were very happy to welcome Faye from St. Gemma's Hospice in Moortown, to speak to the children during our Key Stage Two assembly last week. Faye explained in a very simple straightforward way how generous donations to the Hospice at various events in school over the years have made an immeasurable difference to the lives of its patients and their families. Faye thanked the children and was accompanied by Gemma the Giraffe herself who was very enthusiastic in congratulating the children – it seemed that high fives were the order of the day all round. We will of course continue to collect on behalf of St. Gemma's Hospice at the forthcoming Christmas and end of year shows.

An invitation to the next parent/carers briefing on the '**Love of Reading**' on **Wednesday 1st November** was sent home this week via Parentmail. In response to the parent questionnaire we have introduced 'Early Bird' sessions for key briefings to help facilitate attendance for all. I do hope that many of you can take this opportunity up so that we can continue the principle of early briefings in the future.

Enjoy your half-term break. We look forward to seeing you again on Monday 30th October.

Regards,
Mrs Parm Gill
Headteacher

Additional Information



Reminder regarding parking around school

Out of respect for our neighbours, please can parents and carers show consideration when parking their cars. A number of local residents continue to have their driveways blocked by parents at the beginning and end of the day. As I am sure you can appreciate this is not considerate for our neighbours.

Polite Reminder to Parents/Carers

We have had a few incidences in the past few weeks where parents, carers and grandparents have approached the children on the playground during play and lunchtimes and initiated contact. Whilst we fundamentally appreciate the desire to speak to your child at this time, all staff have been directed to challenge any adult talking to children through the playground fence as part of their Safeguarding responsibilities. Parents and carers are reminded to avoid such direct contact to avoid any unnecessary upset when they are challenged by staff.

School calendar academic year 2018-2019

Holiday	Schools close			Schools open		
Summer break				Monday	3 September	2018
Autumn mid-term	Friday	26 October	2018	Monday	5 November	2018
Christmas break	Friday	21 December	2018	Monday	7 January	2019
Spring mid-term	Friday	15 February	2019	Monday	25 February	2019
Easter break	Friday	29 March	2019	Monday	15 April	2019
Easter weekend	Thursday	18 April	2019	Tuesday	23 April	2019
May Bank Holiday	Friday	3 May	2019	Tuesday	7 May	2019
Summer mid-term	Friday	24 May	2019	Monday	3 June	2019
Summer break	Weds	24 July	2019			

Term length

Autumn 75 days

Spring 55 days

Summer 65 days

Total 195 days

Bank Holidays include

Christmas 25 & 26 December 2018

New Year's Day 1 January 2019

Good Friday 19 April 2019

Easter Monday 22 April 2019

May Day 6 May 2019

Spring Bank 27 May 2019

August 26 August 2019

Please contact schools directly for their five training days as these are not the same for all schools

A Polite Request...

The Helen O'Grady Drama Academy takes place on Thursdays in the KS1 Hall. There are now two classes: 3.30-4.30pm for KS1 children and 4.30-5.30pm for older children. Ms Adams (club leader) is on her own for both sessions and some of the children who attend the second hour are not Talbot pupils.

For safeguarding and to aide a smooth transition we are asking all parents to wait outside under the canopy for the start of the 4.30pm class. Ms Adams will bring the younger children to the office area door to release them to their parents; she will then take the older children as a group to the hall for their session.

Thank you in advance for your patience in this matter.